

“Misuse of Scripture”

Various Scriptures

“Do everything without complaining or arguing.” Philippians 2:14

Principle: We are a product of the way we have been brought up.

Two ways people misuse scripture:

1. Legalism
2. Literalism

“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.” Psalms 18:2

Principle: We must always interpret scripture with scripture.

Principle: If plain sense makes common sense seek no other sense.

How can I properly use scripture?

1. I must receive God’s Word.

Be careful, be calm, be clean, be compliant

2. I must reflect on God’s Word.

Read it, review it, and remember it

3. I must respond to God’s Word.

“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” John 13:17

Life group questions:

1. Share an example of how you have seen the scriptures abused, either through legalism or literalism. What would have been the better interpretation?
2. How can we keep from putting God’s endorsement on our interpretation?
3. What are the tools to correctly interpret the Bible?
4. At what point does the legitimate desire to protect God’s Word become a repressive system of abuse?
5. Can we trust the Bible?
6. What does being a doer of the word prove about us?